4. School fees should be made payable in eleven instead of eight instalments.

5. The minimum pay of vernacular school teachers should be fixed at Rs. 20 per mensem.

6. Qualified women should be appointed in all departments.

7. The Dewan should make a personal enquiry about the recent incidents in the Arts College.

8. Better encouragement should be accorded to the development of malayalam short-hand and typewriting.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Sankara Pillai Madhavan Pillai, as you did not, in your notice of subjects, give any sort of indication as to the lines on which you were going to make your representation it was not possible for the Government to prepare material beforehand for replies to your representation today. All that I can do is to assure you that the suggestions you have made will be brought on record and will receive adequate consideration.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 1·53 P. M. and re-assembled at 3. P. M.

59. Defects of the Namputiri Bill.

MR. CHENNAN DAMODARAN NAMPUTIRI (*Member, Jenmies, Kottayam Division*) urged for the rejection of the Namputiri Bill and said that the Bill had not the approval of the vast majority of the community. It was of no avail to say that the author of the Bill had the mandate of the Namputiri Yogakshema Sabha. That association had long ago ceased to reflect the opinion of the elite of the community. Most of the prominent members of the community in and outside Travancore, among whom was the Azhuvanchery Tamprakal himself, had repudiated the Bill. For these reasons the member requested that the Bill should be rejected by Government.

DEWAN'S REPLY: The representation will be considered.

60. Development of agriculture.

MR. K. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Member, Kalkulam taluk, Group I*) speaking on the development of agriculture first urged the reduction of the water cess levied on the ryots in Nanjinad. The original investment on the Kodayar Project was estimated at Rs. 80 lakhs. Out of this certain deductions had to be made to estimate the amount of money which must be considered as being invested in the project. The amounts to be deducted were :

(*a*) Rs. 3 lakhs representing the investment on the R. B. Channel ;
(*b*) Rs. 3 lakhs representing the investment on works since abandoned;
(*c*) Rs. 10 lakhs realised from the sale of tank beds ;
(*d*) Rs. 25½ lakhs for 17 years from 1084 to 1102 at Rs. 1½ lakhs per annum on account of *Karivu* remissions ;
(*e*) Rs. 9 lakhs at ½ a lakh per annum spent by the Irrigation and the P. W. Departments on repair of tanks, flood relief, etc.
(*f*) Rs. 1 lakh realised by sale of poramboke lands.

The total amount already realised from the original investment was thus very nearly Rs. 52 lakhs. When this amount was reduced from Rs. 80 lakhs, the capital remaining was only Rs. 28 lakhs. The water-cess which Government were levying was to be regarded as part-payment towards this balance of Rs. 28 lakhs. But Government were investing even bigger amounts in other public works. There was therefore no justification in levying water-cess from the ryots of Nanjinad.

In regard to the rates of land-tax prevalent in Nanjinad, the member stated that they were far higher than the rates prevailing in the neighbouring districts of British India and in other parts of Travancore. The rate of land-tax on the paddy

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